

119-119½-121 WEST MAIN STREET

The three bow-front buildings that comprise the row consisting of 119-119½-121 West Main Street are identical except in color, and in some other superficial decorations. Built around the turn of this century by the Yingling Family, the row, with its contrasts of straight and curve lines, is one of the most significant architectural statements in Westminster; this is to the good, as its location, where Pennsylvania Avenue angularly forks off of West Main Street, is one of the most important geographical features of Westminster.

CARA 775
0704454604

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

119-119½-121 West Main Street (MD 32)

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

— DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
— STRUCTURE
— SITE
— OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

— PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
— BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

— IN PROCESS
— BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
— UNOCCUPIED
— WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
— YES: UNRESTRICTED
— NO

PRESENT USE

— AGRICULTURE — MUSEUM
— COMMERCIAL — PARK
— EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
— ENTERTAINMENT — RELIGIOUS
— GOVERNMENT — SCIENTIFIC
— INDUSTRIAL — TRANSPORTATION
— MILITARY — OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

See Addendum

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Numbers 119-119½-121 West Main Street rest on low fieldstone foundations and face the south side of that street near "The Forks" in Westminster. The buildings were all but certainly built at the same time, if not as one unit, then as one vision. Therefore, despite their present multiple ownership, they will be treated as one unit.

The row consists of three-story, bow-front buildings that are identical except in color (and some minor cosmetic decorations). Each has its three-story, bowed section filling the eastern two-thirds of the building east of the slightly recessed, transomed, entrance door; in the 5 feet above the entrance door, on all three buildings, the common bond brick wall rises up without interruption. Each bow has two double-hung sash windows per floor all regularly spaced, and all 1/1 paned except for those in 119 which are 2/2. All windows have wood sills (color differs from building to building) and 3 course gauged flat arches with every other stretcher bond brick on the first row recessed. This staggering of brick sets up a nice rhythm and counterpoint to the heavy denticulated two-part entablature which writhingly follows the contour of the tops of these facades and finishes off the southward sloping shed roof which covers all of the buildings. The east and west walls of the building are blind, flush as they are with 117 and 123 West Main Street.

The south is a jumble of activity; it seems that originally, a two-tiered porch was strung across all three units; this porch still exists on the western units and is approached by a centrally located single flight of steps. Each unit has a glass and aluminum storm door, and a 1/1 window to the south, except for 119 which has filled in the porch and covered it with aluminum siding, placing two squarish 1/1 windows on the second floor, and a glass and aluminum storm door and a 1/1 window on the ground floor. Number 119 differs also on its eastern facade, having two 1/1 windows per floor (this difference was undoubtedly the result of its neighbors not going back as far as no. 123). The southern ground floors of the other two sections have half aluminum siding infills to the west (pierced by a glass and aluminum storm window) and storm doors to the east. Small flat-capped flues are located towards the rear in each building.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Most obviously, and most correctly, the main significance of this row of buildings is first, that they are a "row", and secondly, that they are bowed. Although there are other (but not many) three-part units in the City, there are none that offer curves as contrast to the arrow-like straightness of Main Street (east and west) and to the flat wall surfaces that rise at right angles from it. This row does. (Their is a bow front row on East Green Street). For this reason alone, if the buildings had no other features, would make them important additions to the streetscape anywhere along Main Street. However, their location here, where Pennsylvania Avenue angularly forks off of West Main Street, is even more important, as the recessed arches over the windows and doors, combine with the dentils to work up pleasant contrasts within the building's facade.

On March 27, 1854 Jessie Schweigart and Sirus Schweigart as executors of John Schweigart, sold a 60' x 198' (all of lot 9) piece of land to David Zepp for \$822 (Carroll County Deed Book 16, Page 150). William H. Zepp who lived next door, as executor of David Zepp, sold a 40' x 198' piece to Elizabeth Yingling on April 26, 1884 for \$1000. (61/93). It seems likely that Elizabeth Yingling built these three buildings, as upon her death in 1899, her children and heirs caused several deeds to be made (92/118, 92/166, 92/165, 92/168) which, in their metes and bounds description, make it clear that the houses exist. Also, these houses seem fine, one hesitates to say it, transitional houses, as they could not have been built much before the 1890's except by a very bold person (the staggered brick arches and the bold front would have been too revolutionary to much antedate this era), nor could they have been built much later, except by a true reactionary, in part because of the heavy entablature, which has definite links to the 19th century. Title for these buildings becomes very confusing (and relatively unimportant): dozens of deeds took place among dozens of people before the buildings were united by an organization called Trico, Inc., which took title in the early 1970's, but which almost immediately sold off each building to its present owner.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being the western 30' of lot no. 9 of B. S. Pigman's Addition
to Westminster.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

March

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Westminster

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created
by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the
Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA,
1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information
and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringe-
ment of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

507.



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E-8

CARR 445
119-121-1212 W. MAW ST.
WESTMINSTER

N. FACADE
C. WEEK 3/77